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ning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.

(54) Title: **LASER MARKING PROCESS**

(57) Abstract: Thin, flexible plastic films, of the type used for the packaging of foodstuffs, may be printed using a laser marking technique by printing a layer or layers comprising a laser sensitive material and an ink so that heating of the laser sensitive material by absorption of laser radiation burns the ink selectively, so causing markings to appear. A further process for marking a flexible plastic material using a laser is disclosed, whereby to a surface of a substrate comprising said flexible plastic material a laser sensitive material which is or is associated with a material that generates gas on heating is applied, this is coated with a gas impermeable layer, then exposed to laser radiation such that raised markings appear on the exposed portions.

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

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A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

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B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

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Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, WPI Data, PAJ, INSPEC, IBM-TDB

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

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C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

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